

## GRAND RAPIDS HERALD

Business Office, 601  
Editorial Room, 101

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.  
DAILY and SUNDAY, One Year, \$5.00  
DAILY and SUNDAY, Three Months, 1.50  
SUNDAY, One Year, 2.00  
WEEKLY, One Year, 1.00

The weather today: Cloudy  
with light rain or snow;  
winds shifting to northerly.

## STATE CONVENTION.

The republican state convention, to elect delegates to the Minnesota national convention, will meet in Detroit, April 14. The official call has not yet been formulated, but the day is understood to have been decided upon at a meeting of the committee in Detroit, Monday forenoon. The news report also indicates that instead of nominating two presidential electors at large and allowing the districts to nominate one each, according to the Miner view, the full quota of fourteen electors will be nominated by the convention according to the provisions of the old law. This will be done to bring about a test of the Miner inquiry-sailed law, enacted by the last legislature. It is claimed by many of the best attorneys of the state that the law is unconstitutional. This action of the republicans is obviously for the purpose of having the constitutionality of the law passed upon by the supreme court of the state. It is probable that a statement or explanation of the position to be taken by the republican party on the matter will be given the people in the near future.

## STAR CHAMBER DIVORCES.

The notorious Plack divorce case has found a parallel in Iowa, where the circumstances surrounding were quite as reprehensible as were those attending the Plack case. Divorces granted in the privacy of a judge's chamber, and in the absence of the defendant, on oral testimony presented by the applicant, are on their face so suspicious of fraud that the action of the court becomes censurable. It may come within statutory provision and be permissible, but it is not proper nor customary, nor in the nature of things can it be fair to the defendant.

Most, if not all the states provide a legal service by publication in the county paper; wife or husband may innocently and without suspicion leave home for a prolonged visit in a distant state, and while absent the guilty applicant—for guilt has always been shown in cases of this kind—may institute proceedings, keep within the requirements of the law, and obtain a decree of divorce without discovering to the absent one his or her action.

If all the proceedings were required by law to be had in open court, fraudulent divorces would be of less frequent occurrence, and the parties to them could not plead ignorance as an excuse for absence.

Divorce laws should be for the benefit of those injured or outraged by some act or negligence of the husband or wife as the case may be, and should be held sacredly aloof from every appearance of fraud.

## HILL'S MACHINE.

The New York machine is nothing more nor less than the most powerful political organization in this country. Its influence is already widely felt, and its power will yet dominate the democratic party of the United States. Disaffected followers of the party may rant and ridicule, and cry machine until their throats grow husky. They may sever their allegiance if they will, but the machine will continue to make and unmake candidates at its pleasure, and nominate David B. Hill for the presidency, or some one of his choosing. The Cleveland, Whitney, Dickinsons, Campbells, and a host of others loud in their denunciations of Mr. Hill and his midwinter convention will in the end be most effectually squelched. The perfect workings of the organization at Albany clearly evidence the completeness of its far reaching plans and the harmony of its members. The brain which conceived and brought to perfection an organization, which, regardless of the opposition of men of known influence, violated with impunity the custom obtaining in New York state and swayed the delegation to its own will, is quite capable of capturing and swaying the Chicago convention.

David B. Hill is one of the shrewdest politicians this nation of politicians has produced. He has perfected an organization in the state of New York never before witnessed in that or any other commonwealth. It is perfect, complete and the work of a master mind. Those of his party not spoken in the wheel—not part in machine—may herald long and loud, but with little avail for the head of that machine is of the sort that pleases democracy. The republican leaders should take note of these logical results and should not underestimate the abilities of the opposition chieftain. If Hill is successful in his ambition a stubbornly fought campaign will surely follow. It will be a campaign on the part of the democracy unprecedented in perfect organization and close attention to detail, unparalleled in sharp, shrewd tricks to capture votes and fool voters; unprincipled in its pretensions and misrepresentations—in short, Mr. Hill is the one candidate most dangerous to republican success.

## GARRAL'S NAME.

The confederated industrial conference begins their platform with a declaration of principles in which, after invoking the blessing and protection of

Almighty God, they declare that the nation is on the verge of moral, political and material ruin. That "corruption dominates the ballot box, legislatures, congress, and touches even the shrine of the bench." If such a revolting state of affairs existed, as these declarations would lead one to believe, the need of invoking Divine protection would be felt not by this conference alone, but by the nation.

To give utterance to sentiments of a seditious nature is wrong, and to publish them to the world, and by publishing to mislead and pervert the mind of men, is not only wrong, but culpable and cowardly in the extreme. Isolated cases are made to appear as of general occurrence, and are given a prominence not warranted by facts, untruthful in their inception and at variance with the honor, honesty and integrity of our elective legislation and judicial bodies.

It is deplorable that under any existing combination of circumstances sort of actual revolution, any peacefully inclined body of citizens should allow their prejudices to become as influenced as to see dishonesty corruption where there is only purity. The state of affairs depicted is but one step removed from revolution. Do these gentlemen wish to be understood that revolution is not peace, is their object? Certainly no one wishes to so understand them. Nor does anyone wish them to be deprived of any of the rights of citizenship or to curtail them of any of the privileges guaranteed by the constitution. Neither do those not in full accord with the conference wish to be debared or curtailed of rights common to all. Principles a little less inflammatory, a little nearer the truth would not have detracted from the interests of the meeting and might have served its purpose to better advantage. The bane of prejudice, darkness and obscures, while unprejudiced, intelligent judgment broadens the mind.

## THEY WERE ABSENT.

The charitable disposed ladies of Grand Rapids have been decidedly conspicuous at the meetings of the state superintendents of the poor—by their absence. Of all the ladies who profess great love for "sweet charity," who are officers of charitable institutions, or occupy prominent places on charitable boards, only two or three were present. The meetings have been well advertised, and why the people from the city interested in such work do not attend is a mystery. The ministers, too, were conspicuously absent. Interchange of ideas between those whose business it is to provide for the wants of the poor, and those who would like to see the poor have their wants provided for, could not fail to be of benefit to all. The fame of the charitable institutions of this city has spread far and wide. Men from all over the state are conveyed here to discuss questions that have direct bearing on all charitable issues. They come here expecting to meet the men and women who have made the city's institutions what they are. It is to be hoped that all who did not attend the meeting last night were detained by some charitable work, and that the absence was not willful neglect of this state association.

The proposition of City Engineer Collier for the removal of Pearl street bridge to Wealthy avenue and Bridge street bridge to Leonard street and replace these inadequate structures with others that will be large enough to accommodate the immense traffic in the heart of the city, is being favorably considered. There is an unquestionable need for a bridge at Wealthy avenue, and sooner or later the wooden structure at Leonard street must be replaced. It is also a fact that the two old bridges are too narrow for the great stream of traffic that must pass over them. The dock line walls will contract the river to a considerable extent and a portion of such bridge, equivalent to one bent, will rest upon solid ground. New bridges would cost but little more than the old as the extra will be partly compensated for by the decrease in length. It was but a few years ago that the first iron bridge was erected to replace the old wooden structure at Bridge street. A grand celebration was held; cannons were fired and fireworks, both oratorical and pyrotechnic, were touched off. The municipal head swelled with self-satisfaction and, like little Jack Horner, each city official put in his thumb and whether he pulled out a plum or not, he said: "Behold what a big man am I."

The city officials' attention is called to the fact that this is also a big town. Everything that is built in the way of public improvements must be scaled for a town of 100,000 people. Anything on a smaller scale will soon be found inadequate, and its enlargement will soon become an expensive necessity.

The first cargo for the relief of the starving Russians left Philadelphia yesterday carefully stored away aboard the "Indiana." The cargo was made up entirely of donations contributed by the citizens of the city of brotherly love. Divine services were held simultaneously on board the vessel and on the wharf. It is thus the eagle greets the bear and lifts its famishing head to a new life.

TAMMANY'S CENSUS METHODS are something like proof reading. First a proof is taken, then it is read, and finally revised. The difference lies in the fact that at each stage Tammany rechristens the same party, while in proof reading it is the same old matter.

GARRAL! GARRAL! The name has a somewhat familiar sound. There, I have it. He is the gentleman who is engaged in war on the Mexican frontier

and whom the combined forces of two countries have repeatedly surrounded and captured—in their minds.

The Albany gathering is not the first instance on record in which a multitude has gathered about a hill-don't meet, please. This was wholly unpremeditated and spontaneous as the occasion which had been planned weeks before.

JERRY SIMPSON was in attendance at the St. Louis conference, but the report fails to mention his socks. This is a singular oversight on the part of the reporter.

## AMUSEMENTS.

The sale of seats for "Paul Kavan," which will be given at Powers' tomorrow night and Saturday afternoon and evening, is now in progress. The title role will be played by Edward L. Snader, a robust young actor, who had considerable experience in support of the elder Salvini.

"Peter Peterson" will receive representations at Redmond's this afternoon and evening.

"The Power of the Press" is, to all accounts, an earnest and vigorous legitimate drama, ably constructed and very interesting in plot. It will hold the boards at Powers' next Monday and Tuesday evenings.

"All the Comforts of Home" follows "The Power of the Press" at Powers'. The roster orchestra are great favorites with the large audiences which patronize Geary's museum this week.

Milt Gottbold, good natured and full of anecdote, humorous and serious, is making it merry around the lobby of Redmond's this week. He is very enthusiastic about his melo-dramatic attraction, "The Pay Train," with Florence Bindley, which opens at this theater next Sunday evening.

Flynn and Sheridan have a hard working company. No company which appeared Smith's has inspired the earnestness and manifested the commendable desire to please that this one does. Beatrice, the lady contortionist, just paralyzes the audiences with wonder and astonishment. Matinees tomorrow and Saturday.

## INFLUENCE OF WOMEN.

A Gathering of Ladies Discuss Political Matters.

About fifty women met yesterday at the home of Mrs. E. E. Ketchum, West Bridge street, and discussed questions of interest to those who love humanity.

The meeting was opened by all singing a "New Song of Freedom" to the tune of "Hold the Fort," written by Mrs. Harriet H. Robinson, of Massachusetts, author of a book on "Legal Conditions of Women."

Rev. Caroline Bartlett, of Kalamazoo, was introduced, and spoke of observations she had made while in England last summer, concerning the general interest in the English woman take and their active participation in all political questions. She thought them in advance of American women in this line, and said they were accorded greater political recognition, and if free America did not "look to her laurels" old conservative England would get the lead in enfranchising women. Mrs. Elizabeth Englefield then followed, giving a very spirited and logical address on the prejudice of sex. She spoke for more than an hour and made many hits which caused much merriment and awakened serious thought in the minds of some who may never before have sought an answer to her searching and impressive question: "Why are we denied the ballot?"

Then Mrs. Margaret Scott, for nearly eight years superintendent of the "Industrial Home for Girls" at Adrian, gave a comprehensive account of the work of that institution, and an insight into its workings, its benefits and the need of women to manage and control every department of an institution where nearly 700 girls from 10 to 17 years of age have been sent to receive help, sympathy and the uplifting influence of earnest, loving women, that reclaimed and strengthened these victims, rather than criminals, may become good citizens, virtuous and self-supporting. One woman appealed to the mother heart of each woman present to think and act, to create a public sentiment that will demand that such men shall be sent to our next legislature as shall see to it that this institution shall be given entirely into the hands of women—an ark so sacred that no man shall dare to lay irreverent hands upon it.

Then a letter was read from Mary L. Doe, of Bay City, member of the school board, in which she spoke of the harmony with which men and women work together there, and stated that the secretary said to her recently, "that one reform at least had been accomplished just by the presence of women—for man there was a pure atmosphere, where heretofore the tobacco smoke used to be so thick he could scarcely see to read his minutes." A letter was also read from the secretary of the state superintendent of education at Lansing, that in addition to women on school boards in Detroit, Bay City, Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, Jackson and Charlotte. There is a woman trustee in Leelanaw, Gladwin, Crawford, Cass, Benzie, Baraga and Alger counties and in Alger county the whole school board are women, and farther that there were five women acting as county commissioners. This account was followed by the statement "that they rank among the most earnest workers in their line."

The announcement was made that on March 13th another meeting would be held at the same place, to which all interested were invited and the meeting was adjourned.

## Convicts Who Draw Pensions.

JACKSON, Mich., Feb. 24.—Between twenty-five and thirty prisoners in the penitentiary here receive pensions from the government. Those that let it accrue have snug sums awaiting them when they are released. One prisoner who completed a ten years' sentence recently left the prison doors with \$500, the amount saved up from his war pension. The prison officials act as the convicts' bankers, and at the present time have on deposit some \$10,000 or \$11,000.

## To Form a French Cabinet.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—M. de Freycinet having refused to form a new cabinet, President Carnot has intrusted the task to M. Rouvier, who is trying to include most of the present ministers in the cabinet. M. de Freycinet, Ribot, Constans and De Velle have agreed to remain in the cabinet.

## We Loved a Man.

St. Louis, Feb. 24.—The story of the causes which led to the suicide of Dr. Breckinridge on Tuesday shows that Breckinridge was the victim of an un-

normal passion for Prof. Isaac N. Judson, teacher of the St. Louis high school. In letters which he left he says in so many words that he took his life because of the hopelessness of his love for Judson, and begs the professor to remember his affection as greater than that which could be given him by any other human being.

## BITS OF INFORMATION.

The Manitoba legislature has been called together on March 10.

From New York Tuesday \$1,000,000 in gold was shipped to Europe.

Three new railroads are likely to be built into Ottawa, Ia., during next summer.

Leonard Coleman, charged with killing John Sloan, a neighboring farmer, is on trial at Mason City, Ia.

Unless rain falls in Arizona within the next three weeks the losses to cattle owners will be immense, it is said.

Theodore Graham, a crippled crossing watchman at Nevada, O., has been informed of a legacy of \$200,000 from a relative in Ireland.

John H. Wilderman, a bachelor farmer of Turkey Hill, Ill., died on Monday, leaving an estate valued at \$500,000 to two brothers.

An appeal for funds is made by the executive of the Irish National league to Irish nationalists and friends of home rule in America.

Eastern capitalists are said to be plotting to secure most of the mining lands in Creede, Cal., where rich discoveries of gold were made recently.

At Pittsburgh, Pa., Tuesday Charles Rodgers shot and probably fatally wounded his wife because she refused to share a recently inherited fortune with him.

Grover Cleveland held a reception at the Hotel Cadillac in Detroit Tuesday evening. It is estimated that 15,000 persons grasped the hand of the ex-president.

At Vinton, Ia., Blair Dillon, a tough, knocked down and nearly killed Dick Swartzbaugh, floor manager of the firemen's dance, last evening. He lay insensible for nine hours. Dillon escaped.

Charcoal burners at Emerson, Mich., thrust a dissolute woman into a charcoal kiln and left her there five hours. Though the fire was not hot enough to burn her, the woman was overcome by smoke and never regained consciousness after being taken out.

Thursday, at Pittsburgh, Pa., Annie Rogers, 11 years old, was killed by an electric street car. Later, an electric car collided with a wagon. Two children standing on the sidewalk were struck by pieces of the wagon and one fatally injured.

## ODDS AND ENDS.

Paris owns but one vessel.

Mexico street cars are used for funerals.

Genius is the hare, industry the tortoise.

The Bank of England employs 1,100 people.

London has electric fire engines now on exhibition.

Dogs and men can climb the greatest known elevations.

A hunter in Maine claims to have a cat that will stalk grouse.

Some insects are in a state of maturity thirty minutes after birth.

Why are so many people prone to make opinion a test of character?

A network of electric elevated railroads is about to be built in Berlin.

The average southern pine lands cut 15,000 feet of lumber to the acre.

Vinegar bottles may be cleaned with crushed eggshells in a little water.

Never contradict a painter in a theater. He always wants to make a scene.

Never buy a ham because it is offered at a low price. Cheapness counts one against its being choice.

If you must be charitable, be charitable in public. In sets a good example, and you get some return.

It is singular how much mischief a little child can get into even under its mother's and nurse's eyes.

Philadelphia thinks it would be wise to supply all its public school pupils with a daily free lunch.

No bank failure has occurred in China for 900 years. For a failure the officers must lose their heads.

To take ink spots out of white goods wet the spot with oxalic acid or muriatic acid, then wash in warm water.

The recently discovered deposits of asphaltum in California are said to be the most extensive in the world.

The United States is blessed that it has 100,000 square miles of coal beds, of which 120,000 square miles may be easily worked.

A minister in England, whose scientific attainments are considerable, finds the collection and sale of fossils a partial source of income.

The value of the farm products of the United States for 1891 is several hundred millions of dollars more than was ever before reached.

The enterprise of stocking the rivers of Arkansas and Missouri with the rainbow trout of California is said to be a most gratifying success.

The Harroldian is a periodical wind which blows during the months of December, January and February from the interior of Africa toward the Atlantic ocean.

## Don't Be Stupid.

Economy is not stinginess.

It is getting out of a thing all there is in it, and not expending twenty volumes of heat to boil one volume of water, not paying a dollar for a dime's worth, not saving the barrel of apples and buying a barrel of acid at the druggist's later on, for the apple juice is much the cheaper medicine of the two.

An ignorant woman is, as a rule, really an extravagant woman. She does not understand the proper use of material, nor will she learn.

The penny wise, pound foolish method, is her method, and so she will stumble along, starving her soul and starving her body, and wasting her substance, meantime congratulating herself on her wise and economical management.

If meat can be cooked so as to retain 100 per cent. of its nutritious qualities it is not waste to lose half of this by improper cooking.

If in August the system needs but a few lightwood sticks to keep the fire going, isn't it waste to shovel in tons of coal?

Yet there are thousands of women who cannot cook corned beef aright, and have sausage for breakfast in the dead of summer.

It is wise to pay ten cents a pound for shavings to keep up a fire when hickory sticks can be gotten for half that sum, and are cleaner, easier to handle and give out better results.

Take care of the people, and the purse will take care of itself.

The woman who buys poor food actually reveals in extravagance.

It is better economy to pay five cents for one apple than one cent for five apples.

The difference in the quantity of fruit

will be trifling, while the quality is very much in favor of the five cent apple; that is, you get more real apple for your money. —Detroit Free Press.

## Ten Dollars Would Have Been Cheap.

"I had a nice little hotel, newly and fully furnished, in San Francisco at one time, and I was offering to a quiet and respectable family trade," said a clerk in an up-town hotel. "Lots of ladies in the house, you understand. Well, one day a man came up to the desk and asked me for some assistance. I refused and ordered him out."

"If you don't give me ten dollars," he said, "I'll commit suicide right here in your hotel."

"I was amused at this novel threat and asked him, with a laugh, why he did not make it \$100."

"I'm not joking," he answered.

"Get out of here," I said angrily.

"The man pulled a pistol from his pocket, and thinking he was going to shoot me, I grabbed mine, but he put the muzzle of his weapon into his own mouth and blew his brains all over my expensively frescoed wall."

"The trouble I had with the inquest and the coroner cost me more than ten dollars. But, worse of all, several nervous ladies, good customers, left my house and took their families with them. They never could sleep, they said, in a hotel where a horrid man had blown out his brains." —New York Tribune.

## Claims Against the Government.

Never was anybody so pestered by duns as Uncle Sam. Claimants who say that he owes them money are always swarming about the Capitol when congress is in session, while thousands are clamoring continually by letter for payment. Some of them are cranks and not a few of them are frauds, but many are honest creditors, hopeful or despairing of a settlement. Numerous are the bad debts recorded against the government, which has been accused often of never paying anything unless it was compelled to pay.

True stories of lives ruined, fortunes wrecked and homes destroyed in the prosecution of just claims against this government would fill volumes. Unpaid victims haunt the legislative lobbies from congress to congress, pursuing the delinquent debtor with never dying hope, while scores of others are relegated to the poorhouses and the lunatic asylums. Some of the claims are handed down by the creditors from generation to generation, legacies usually productive of misery and unhappiness. —Washington Letter.

## Even the Druggist Despaired.

A straight wisp of faded hair stuck out from the small coil at the back of her head.

"Air you the druggist?" she asked.

"I am, madam," he replied.

"Leadin' druggist o' the city?"

"Without doubt, madam."

"Keep all the modernest remedies, ispos?"

"Certainly."

"Got any o' this yer bichloride o' gold?"

"We have the bichloride; yes, madam. We are Dr. Keeley's exclusive agents."

"Same thing they gives to drunkards to break 'em o' drinkin'?"

"Precisely."

"Does it cure drinkin'?"

"Makes a man hate it."

"Will it cure fits?"

"Certainly."

"Cure a man o' chawin' tobacco?"

"Our guarantee goes with every bottle, and there is a hypodermic syringe in every package."

"Go 'way!"

"Yes, indeed. This is a most wonderful discovery. There have been thousands of cases."

"Does it make a man come home reg'lar o' nights?"

"If it does not we will cheerfully refund the money."

"Just natcherly breaks a man o' every bad habit he ever had?"

"Madam, the moral renovation experienced by patients submitted to this treatment is comparable only to the absolute purification and rejuvenation of the entire physical man."

"Dear me, su?"

"Most cases yield to a few bottles, but it is well to be safe, and take along about—"

"I'll take six bottles of you think it'll help my husband."

"Madam, what is the matter with your husband?"

"Matter with him? Say, man, do I look like you could insult me? I guess I orter know him."

"Yes; but what is the trouble with him?"

"Trouble? I guess I orter know. He's more trouble than the hull rest of the family, an' they's nine of us now. Trouble! I sh'd think he wud!"

"But what is his complaint?"

"Complaint? Look at here, now, man, do I look like a woman at 'd stand talk like this? Complaint? He ain't got no mortal complaint in the world, not with a wife like me! It's me that's got the complaint!"

"But what's wrong with your husband—what does he do? Does he use tobacco?"

"Wuss'n't that?"

"Drink?"

"Wuss'n't that?"

"Gamble?"

"Wuss'n't that?"

"What?"

"Goes huntin'!"

"The druggist heaved a long sigh."

"Madam," said he, "I fear the case is hopeless." —Forest and Stream.

## Stumping the Country.

Hubbard—Have you done your best to economize this month, Mary, as I requested?

Wife (brightly)—Oh, yes; I spoke to the grocer, the butcher and the landlord and got them to put off presenting their bills till next month. —New York Press.

## An Abolitionist's Wagon.

Maman-in-law—So, Harold, your wagon said he hoped my trip would be of benefit to me?

Harold—Yes, he said he hoped if you

went to California you'd go for good. —Boston Herald.

## A Big Boy Run.

We were looking over the album—Little Oliver Jones and I—

As I sat in the parlor, awaiting his sister's appearance. Why?

Well, that as an issue, has nothing at all to do with this case.

The boy and I were passing the time as it fell upon.

The passenger had seen five men and his first pair of trousers now

Already were an old story

As to when and where and how.

As we turned the leaves of the album he told me the names of those men.

With many an interjection